



San Francisco Environmental Justice Framework

INFORMATIONAL HEARING @ HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION | FEBRUARY 2023

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AGENDA

1. Background & Goals
2. Community Engagement
3. Environmental Justice Communities Map
4. Environmental Justice Framework
5. Next Steps

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BACKGROUND & GOALS

Why Plan for **Environmental Justice (EJ)**? Why Now?



- **CA Senate Bill 1000 (SB1000)** requires:
 - Analyze data on **EJ Communities***
 - **Adopt policies in General Plan** to address “unique or compounded health risks” (standalone element or integrated throughout)
- **Planning & Historic Preservation Commissions** called for General Plan policies to address **racial & social equity**.

* Referred to as “Disadvantaged Communities” in SB1000

Environmental Justice Framework & Future Updates

Proposed Action to Planning Commission: Environmental Justice Framework, including the **Environmental Justice Communities Map**, will be incorporated by reference in an updated **General Plan Introduction**

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EJ Framework

will serve as a guidepost to City agencies

3

EJ & equity policies

are incorporated in updated Safety & Resilience Element and Housing Element

2

EJ Communities Map

highlights neighborhoods of concern

4

Future updates

Underway for Transportation (2025) & are being scoped for other key Elements (Environmental Protection, Air Quality, Urban Design, Commerce & Industry, Land Use, Arts & Culture)

What **Policies** Can Address Environmental Justice & Racial Equity?



**Healthy &
Resilient
Environments**



**Physical
Activity &
Healthy Public
Facilities**



**Healthy
Food
Access**



**Safe,
Healthy, &
Affordable
Homes**



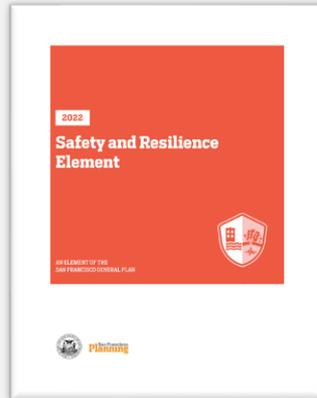
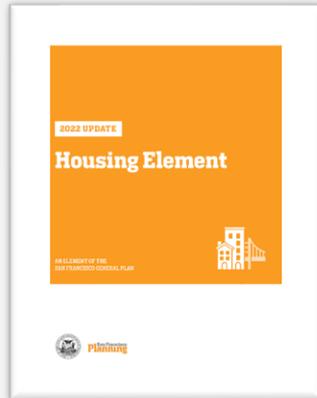
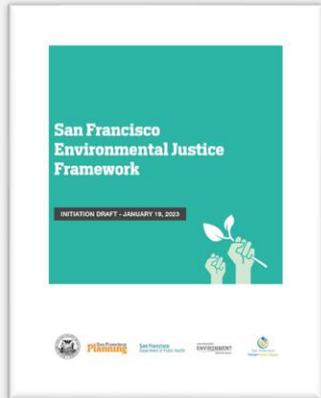
**Equitable &
Green Jobs**



**Empowered
Neighborhoods**

General Plan Introduction: Update

- **Sets the intention** of the General Plan and the future City (last updated in 1996)
- **New content includes:** 1) land acknowledgement 2) strengths and challenges of the built environment 3) acknowledgement and apology of inequitable planning policies and actions
- **Integrate new ideas from:**

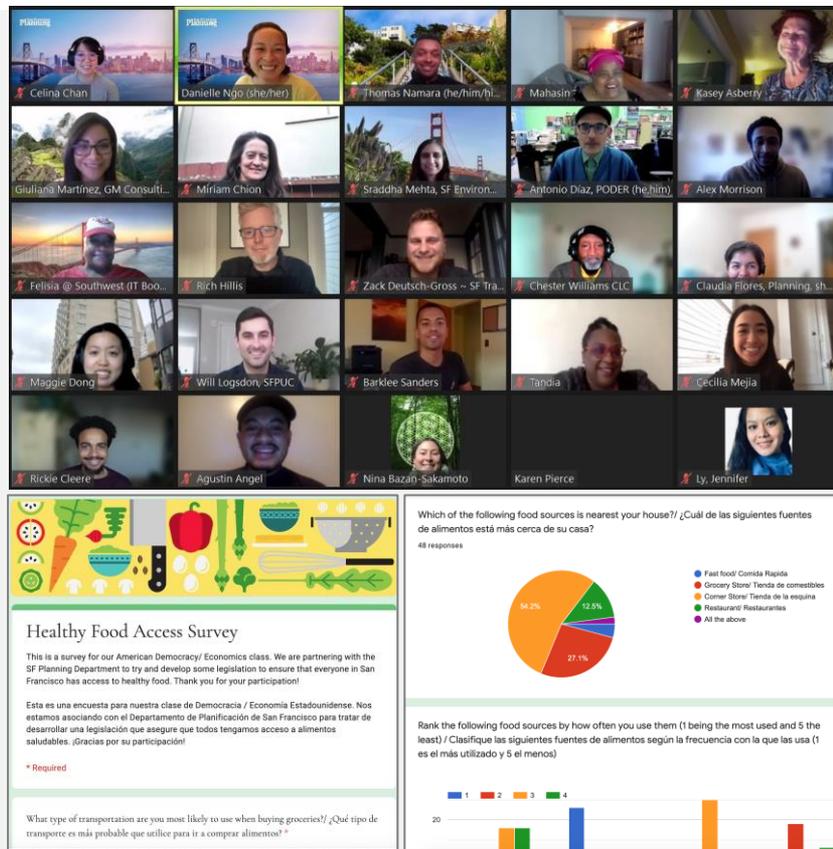


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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement: Goals

- **Meaningfully involve the community** in local decision-making
- **Uplift residents, workers, and community leaders** most impacted by EJ
- Elevate EJ to a **citywide dialogue** across neighborhood boundaries
- **Acknowledge past harms & identify solutions** where the City can step in



Engagement Timeline



ONLINE RESOURCES

- Outreach & Engagement Summary
- Policy Recommendations from EJ Working Group

Community Engagement: CBO & Community Partnerships

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

- Malcolm X Academy
- Balboa High School
- SF State University

FOCUS GROUPS

- Promotoras Activas San Francisco
- Carnaval San Francisco
- Booker T. Washington Community Service Center
- Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
- City of Dreams
- Wu Yee Children's Services

EJ WORKING GROUP

- American Indian Cultural District
- Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates
- Brightline Defense
- Chinatown Community Development Center
- Code Tenderloin
- Demonstration Gardens - Tenderloin Peoples Congress
- Fillmore Media Systems & Services Co.
- Japantown Cultural District
- PODER
- Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
- Residents Supporting Community On Treasure Island
- San Francisco African American Faith Base Coalition
- San Francisco Parks Alliance
- San Francisco Transit Riders
- Sistah Music Snax Entertainment
- Southwest Community Corporation
- St. Andrew Missionary Baptist Church

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES MAP

How the state defines EJ Communities*

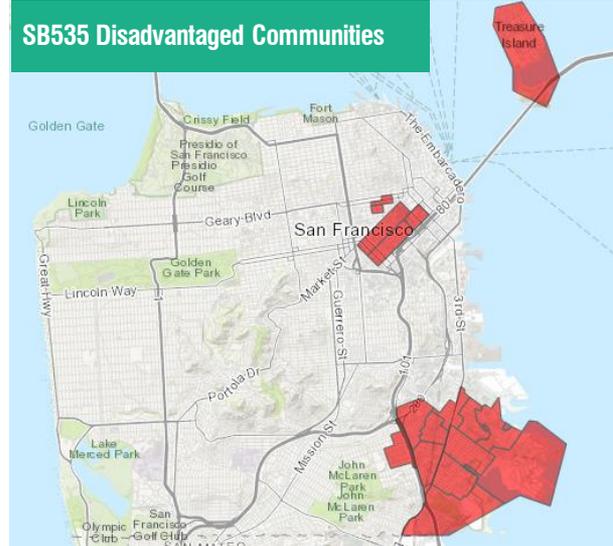
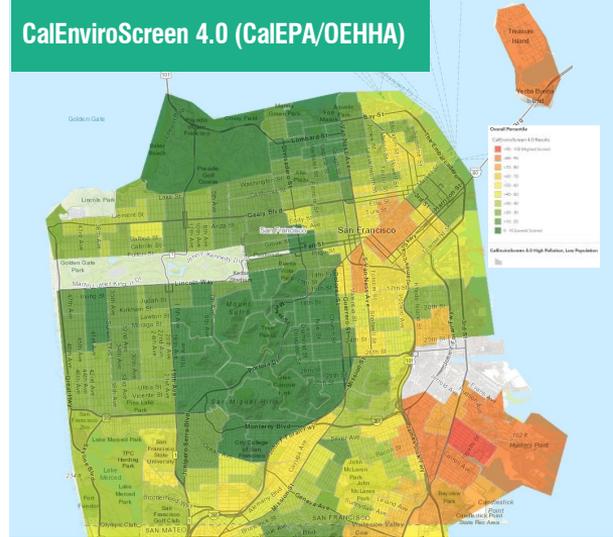
SB1000 cites **CalEnviroScreen**

- 20 pollution, health, and socioeconomic indicators
- Used for state programs (ex: cap & trade fund)
- **Critique:** excludes many sensitive neighborhoods in SF

Goals of **SF-specific analysis**

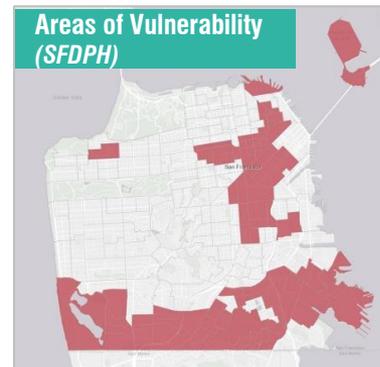
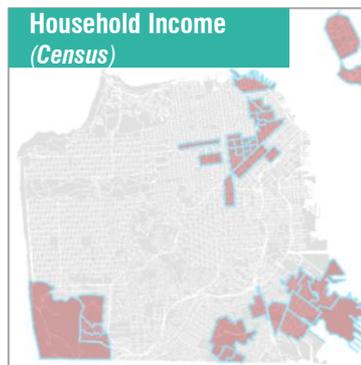
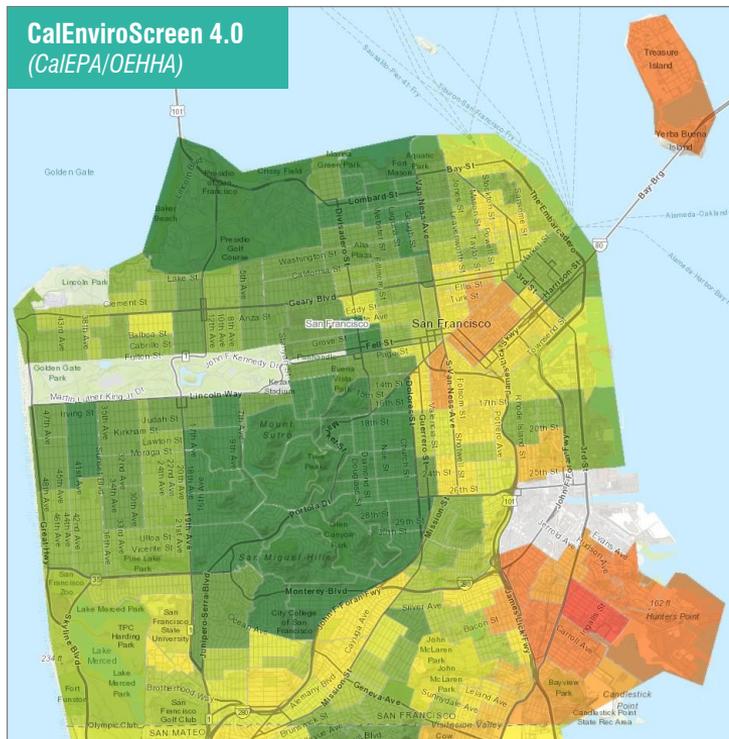
- Refine CalEnviroScreen with local data & create an easily replicable analysis
- Better align with maps by MTC, SFDPH, Rec & Park, etc.
- Reflect community feedback on areas of high need

* Referred to as “Disadvantaged Communities” in SB1000

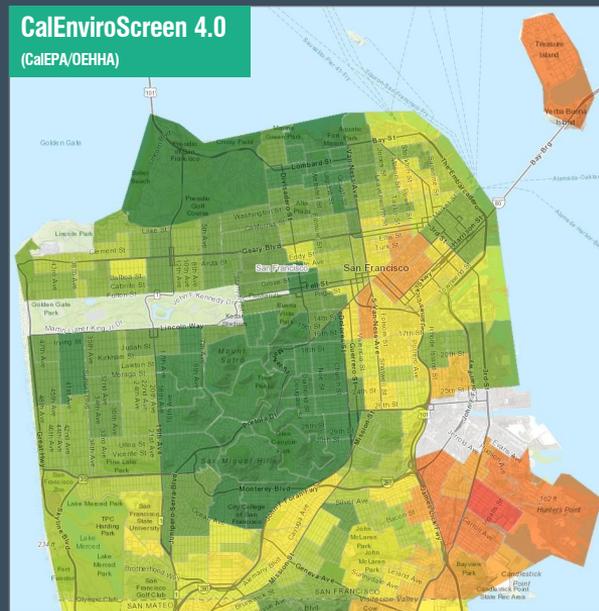
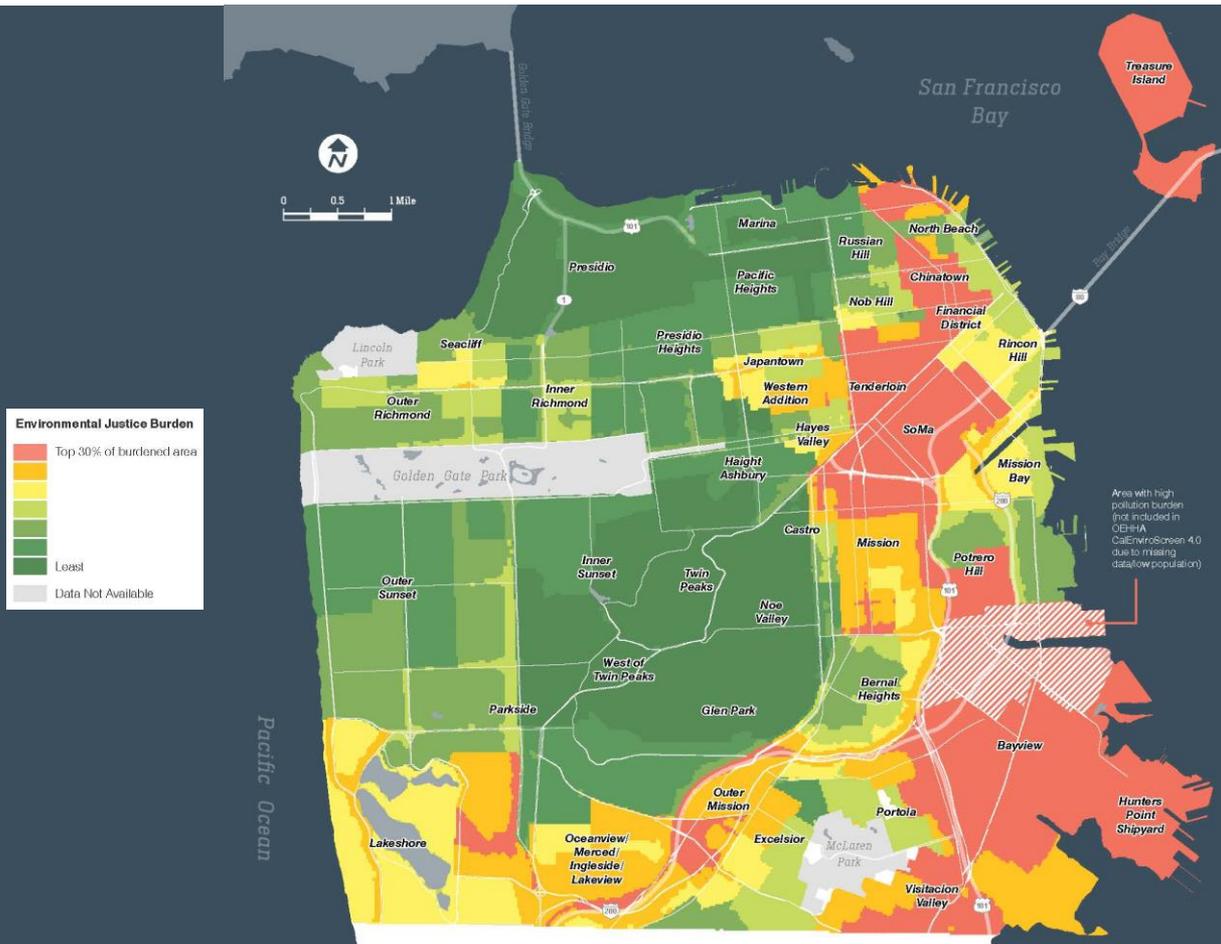


EJ Communities Map Datasets

State encourages cities to refine CalEnviroScreen with local data on pollution burden and health risk factors



San Francisco Environmental Justice Communities Map

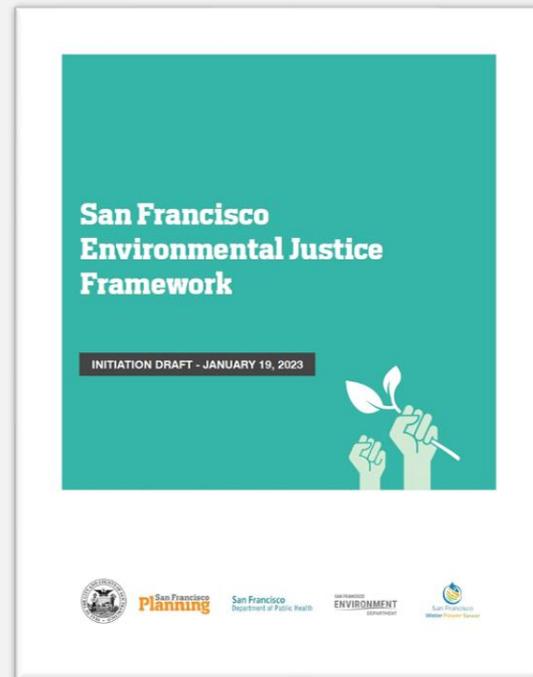


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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

Environmental Justice Framework: **Initiation Draft**

- **Introduction**
- **What is Environmental Justice?**
- **Environmental Justice Priorities** (Why It Matters, Vision, and Priorities)
 - Healthy and Resilient Environments
 - Physical Activity and Healthy Public Facilities
 - Healthy Food Access
 - Safe, Healthy, and Affordable Homes
 - Equitable and Green Jobs
 - Empowered Neighborhoods



Healthy & Resilient Environments

EXAMPLE: CLOSING THE PG&E PLANT



Source: SF Chronicle, Mike Kepka

PRIORITIES:

- Limit and protect against **pollution exposure**
- Prepare for seismic hazards, other **natural disasters**, and the climate crisis
- Expand **nature-based solutions**, green infrastructure, & urban greening
- Invest in **resilient public utility systems** and affirm access to **water, power, and sanitation as a human right**
- Ensure **public access** to data & information
- Empower **community planning** for climate resilience and justice

Physical Activity & Healthy Public Facilities

EXAMPLE: SUNDAY STREETS EXCELSIOR



PRIORITIES:

- Distribute public facilities **equitably**
- Ensure **public facilities** are accessible and safe for all
- Offer **diverse, flexible, and inclusive programming** in public facilities
- Support **environmental education** programs
- Ensure robust **transportation connectivity**
- Ensure **streets and transit** are accessible and safe for all

Healthy Food Access

EXAMPLE: MISSION FOOD HUB



PRIORITIES:

- Affirm **healthy food as a human right**
- Empower **workers** and community members
- Leverage the food system as a means of **strengthening communities**
- Foster **climate resilience and innovation** in the food system
- Increase **nature-based food opportunities**

Safe, Healthy, & Affordable Homes

EXAMPLE: NORTH BEACH PLACE



PRIORITIES:

- Work to **undo past harms**
- Build **accountability & oversight** in the housing systems
- Address **housing affordability & availability**
- Protect **vulnerable tenants**
- Expand **housing choices** citywide
- Ensure that housing supports **public health**

Equitable & Green Jobs

EXAMPLE: SF CONSERVATION CORPS



PRIORITIES:

- Provide **living wages** for all
- Foster a robust network of **work & entrepreneurship**
- Promote pathways for **workers' empowerment and self-determination**
- Facilitate the **just transition** of the city's economy and workforce

Empowered Neighborhoods

EXAMPLE: CULTURAL DISTRICTS



PRIORITIES:

- Prioritize **participation of EJ Communities** in decision-making processes
- Build **capacity** for diverse voices to engage
- Center environmental justice efforts in collaboration with **American Indian communities** and Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Foster a culture of **transparency and communication**
- Develop **community partnerships** to expand city's reach
- Address **community safety**

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NEXT STEPS

Interagency Partners: Coordination & Implementation

SF Department of the Environment

- Elimination or mitigation of environmental burdens & improve the health outcomes for low-income communities of color

SF Public Utilities Commission

- Consideration of EJ Communities in the Green Infrastructure Grant Program

SF Human Rights Commission

- Development of Draft Reparations Plan

SF Department of Public Health

- Public health approaches to environmental justice, including health promotion, indoor air quality, lead prevention, and COVID-19 support

SF Recreation and Park Department

- Adopted the EJ Communities as their Equity Zones

...and more, including OEWD, ORCP, Port, SFMTA, and SFO.

EJ Framework **Adoption Timeline**

December City agencies & EJ Working Group review draft framework

Early January Draft framework posted on website for public comment

January 5th Informational hearing @ Planning Commission

January 26th Initiation hearing @ Planning Commission

March 2nd or After Adoption hearing @ Planning Commission

April - May Hearings at Board of Supervisors

"If we want a safe environment for our children and grandchildren, we must clean up our act, no matter how hard a task it might be."

Hazel M. Johnson,
the "Mother of the Environmental Justice Movement"



A woman in a white lab coat and gloves is watering a child in a garden. The child is wearing a blue shirt. There are other people in the background, including a woman in a green shirt. The scene is outdoors with plants and soil visible.

THANK YOU

Learn more & sign up for email updates at:
<https://sfplanning.org/project/ej-framework>



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